

*Awardee Profiles  
by State*

*Montana*

# Montana

## BILLINGS

### FIRST INTERSTATE BANCYSYSTEM (2002 BEA PROGRAM)

Location: Billings, Montana  
Award: \$18,750.00  
Contact: Ms. Maria Valandra - (406) 255-5395

First Interstate Bank of Billings, Montana, received an award of \$18,750 for Equity Investment Activities. The awardee is a state chartered bank with total assets of \$3,229,880,000.

### NATIVE AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (2000 CDFI PROGRAM – TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE)

Location: Billings, Montana  
Award: \$50,000 technical assistance grant  
Contact: Linda Pease - (406) 259-3804

Native American Development Corporation provides loans and development services to businesses located on or adjacent to Indian reservations in Montana and Wyoming. Founded in 1998 this certified CDFI partners with area banks to extend credit to businesses owned by Native Americans or those with potential for expanding employment opportunities on or near reservations. It is expanding its educational efforts to foster entrepreneurial activity in its service area. The TA award will be used for a market analysis and training of staff and board members in business underwriting and financial management.

## BROWNING

### BLACKFEET NATIONAL BANK (1999 BEA PROGRAM)

Location: Browning, Montana  
Award: \$66,000 grant  
Contact: Sheridan M. Erikson - (406) 338-7000

Blackfeet National Bank of Browning, Montana, a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), received an award of \$66,000 for increasing its financial support to other certified CDFIs. Blackfeet National Bank made a \$100,000 below market rate deposit in each South Shore Bank and Louisville Community Development Bank. South Shore Bank of Chicago, Illinois provides financial services and consumer, housing, and business loans with distressed neighborhoods of Chicago. Louisville Community Development Bank supports the economic growth of twelve distressed neighborhoods in Louisville by providing loans and financial services to businesses. The awardee is a national bank with total assets of \$18.6 million.

### (2000 BEA PROGRAM)

Award: \$99,212 grant  
Contact: Sheridan M. Erickson - (406) 338-7000

Blackfeet National Bank of Browning, Montana, a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), received a \$99,212 award for increasing its consumer and small business lending in economically distressed communities in Montana. The awardee is a national bank with total assets of \$18.5 million.

### (2001 BEA PROGRAM)

Award: \$132,000.00  
Contact: Patty A. Gobert - (406) 338-7000

Blackfeet National Bank of Browning, Montana, a certified community development financial institution (CDFI),

received an award of \$132,000 for making deposits of \$100,000 each into four CDFIs: Douglass National Bank of Kansas City, Kansas; Louisville Community Development Bank of Louisville, Kentucky; CityFirst Bank of Washington, DC; and South Shore Bank of Chicago, Illinois. The awardee is a national bank with total assets of \$18 million.

### BLACKFEET RESERVATION DEVELOPMENT FUND, INC. (2002 CDFI PROGRAM - NACTA )

Location: Browning, Montana  
Award: \$52,500  
Contact: Ms. Elouise C. Cobell - (406) 338-2992

Blackfeet Reservation Development Fund, Inc. located in Browning, MT, is a non-profit corporation that was established in 1991, with a primary mission of supporting the development of the Blackfeet Reservation community. Since its inception, the Blackfeet Reservation Development Fund has been successful in providing financial literacy programs, supporting the building of a community foundation, and providing micro loans to Native American artists and other small businesses. Blackfeet Reservation Development Fund, Inc. was awarded a technical assistance grant of \$52,500 by the CDFI Fund to purchase consulting services and training, and to continue and broaden its financing and related activities by establishing a new CDFI.

### NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (2002 CDFI PROGRAM - NACTA )

Location: Browning, Montana  
Award: \$75,000  
Contact: Ms. Elouise Cobell - (406) 338-2992

Native American Community Development Corporation (NACDC) of Browning, MT is a start-up non-profit corporation affiliated with Native American Bank (formerly Blackfeet National Bank). NACDC was created to provide financing for the development and purchase of affordable housing for Native American people throughout the United States. It plans to serve its market by collaborating with Tribal housing authorities to deliver its financing products and development services. NACDC will use its \$75,000 technical assistance grant from the Fund to hire the Enterprise Foundation to train NACDC staff in the provision of technical assistance to potential borrowers and to train staff in back-room operations. Additionally, the grant will be used to pay staff salaries to adapt existing policies and procedures for NACDC's needs, to develop a training curriculum, and to develop product delivery systems.

## BUTTE

### BUTTE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (2002 CDFI PROGRAM - CORE)

Location: Butte, MT  
Award: \$285,000  
Contact: Ms. Pamela Haxby-Cote - (406) 723-4349

The Butte Local Development Corporation (BLDC) has a mission to create community development, jobs and economic expansion in Butte-Silver Bow, Montana through infrastructure and workforce development, community projects, business start-up, retention, expansion and recruitment activities. This is accomplished by providing technical assistance and participating with various governmental programs and private financial institutions in making investments and loans to small businesses. A CDFI Fund financial assistance grant award of \$250,000 will allow the BLDC to introduce a new loan program that will provide direct higher risk financing for business start-ups and expansions. A Technical Assistance grant of \$35,000 will allow BLDC to create a capitalization strategy, and purchase software, hardware and training to increase efficiencies and effectiveness of loan tracking and portfolio monitoring systems.

## EKALAKA

### CARTER COUNTY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION (2002 CDFI PROGRAM - SECA)

Location: Ekalaka, Montana  
Award: \$50,000  
Contact: Ms. Melody Loken - (406) 775-8748

Carter County Federal Credit Union of Ekalaka, MT. CCFCU is a small community based credit union serving Carter County, a rural county in south eastern Montana. CCFCU provides affordable financial services to residents of the county and low-cost, small agricultural loans and consumer loans to low-income borrowers in the county. The CDFI Fund technical assistance grant will be used to upgrade computer systems, develop marketing materials, and enhance staff capacity.

## HARLEM

### EMERGING NATIVE AMERICAN BUSINESS LENDING, INC. (2002 CDFI PROGRAM - NACTA)

Location: Harlem, Montana  
Award: \$60,000  
Contact: Ms. Caroline Brown - (406) 353-4672

The Awardee is a start-up non-profit organization whose mission is to enhance and diversify the economic conditions of Fort Belknap and Fort Peck reservations by providing small business and micro loans and technical assistance to entrepreneurs. It is partnering with an experienced financial institution, a CDFI and Tribal Business Information Centers, to develop the infrastructure of the organization, commence lending activities, and provide technical assistance to its customers. The Technical Assistance grant of \$60,000 will enable the organization to obtain training for Board and staff, consulting services for the development of policies and procedures, operating systems and manuals, and a capitalization strategy.

## HELENA

### GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (2000 CDFI PROGRAM – TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE)

Location: Helena, Montana  
Award: \$38,000 technical assistance grant  
Contact: Lynn Robson - (406) 447-1510

Gateway Economic Development Corp. (Gateway) serves the lower income population in the Helena, Montana area through the provision of loans to small businesses and other businesses that may create employment opportunities for low-income people. In addition to lending its business development services include the operation of a small business incubator and serving as a Small Business Development Center. Gateway will use the Fund's Technical Assistance award to develop a web site to promote its financial products, increase operating efficiency through use of technology and staff training in using e-commerce techniques.

### MONTANA MICROBUSINESS FINANCE PROGRAM OF THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE – (2ND ROUND PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN MICROENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT – EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SUPPORT FOR MICROENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT)

Location: Helena, Montana  
Program Type: State-wide government financial intermediary  
Service Area: Montana  
Target Market: Organizations that lend to microenterprises in Montana  
Contact: Robyn Hampton, Administrative Officer - (406) 444-4325

The Montana Microbusiness Finance Program (MMFP) builds the capacity of local organizations to promote community asset-building and microbusiness ownership. MMFP demonstrates excellence as a state-wide model for cre-

ating and growing microenterprises in a rural state. MMFP is recognized for developing an innovative and effective program that facilitates micro entrepreneurship through comprehensive services, creative partnerships, implementing a system for measuring its effectiveness, and being highly adaptable to local needs.

### TRI-VALLEY COMMUNITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION (2003 CDFI PROGRAM - FA COMPONENT)

Location: Helena, Montana  
Award: \$73,500  
Contact: Tammy Peltomaa (406) 227-5831

Tri-Valley Community Federal Credit Union (TVCFCU) was certified as a CDFI in December 2002. Located in East Helena, Montana, TVCFCU will use the Fund's award of \$73,500 to assist it in expanding its services to rural Townsend, Montana, particularly to meet the housing needs of this community. In particular, the Fund's award will be used to increase TVCFCU's net worth, offer new loan products, supplement its loan loss reserves, provide home-ownership counseling, and for technical assistance needed to open the new office in Townsend. Approximately 58% of this award will be targeted to Hot Zones.

## LIBBY

### KOOTENAI VALLEY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION (2002 CDFI PROGRAM - SECA)

Location: Libby, Montana  
Award: \$25,200  
Contact: Ms. Betty L. Willman - (406) 293-6421

A low-income community credit union formed in 1956, Kootenai Valley Federal Credit Union provides financial and development services to low-income residents within Lincoln County, Montana. The credit union currently has loans totaling over \$2.8 million to many of its 1,200 members. The Fund's \$25,200 technical assistance grant will be used to purchase technology, and provide training to staff members.

## MISSOULA

### MONTANA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (1999 CDFI PROGRAM - CORE)

Location: Missoula, Montana  
Award: \$460,000 (\$400,000 capital grant, \$60,000 technical assistance)  
Type: Business Loan Fund  
Contact: Rosalie Sheehy Cates - (406) 543-3550

Montana Community Development Corporation (MCDC) was started in 1992 to provide loans to businesses in five western counties of Montana. It provides business loans, mostly less than \$35,000, and no higher than \$200,000, and technical assistance to borrowers and potential borrowers. The CDFI Fund's \$460,000 award (\$400,000 capital grant, \$60,000 technical assistance) will be used to increase the capitalization and sustainability of MCDC's loan programs, and to provide technology to increase the efficiency of its lending operations.

### (2001 CDFI PROGRAM - SECA)

Award: \$50,000  
Contact: Ms. Rosalie Sheehy - (406) 728-9234

Montana Community Development Corporation, a certified Community Development Financial Institution serves the distressed communities of western Montana by providing technical assistance, training and small business loans to low-income individuals and residents of Sanders, Lake, Mineral, and Ravalli Counties, Montana. The technical assistance award will cover the costs of consultant fees and staff salary for the development of the business plan and investment documents for the Awardee's proposed quasi-equity loan product and staff and board training in venture capital.

## POLSON

### SOVEREIGN LEASING & FINANCING, INC. (2002 CDFI PROGRAM - NACTA)

Location: Polson, Montana  
Award: \$54,400  
Contact: Mr. Joe Durglo - (406) 883-4317

Sovereign Leasing and Financing, Inc.(SLF,Inc)of Polson, MT was established in 1992 to offer financing opportunities for businesses owned by members of the Confederated Salish and Kalish Tribes. The Fund's \$54,400 technical assistance grant will enable SLF, Inc. to contract legal and other consulting services, purchase loan management software, and train its staff and board in business loan underwriting and financial management issues. As a result of the Fund's award, SLF, Inc., is expected to become certified as a CDFI by September 2004.

## WOLF POINT

### WOLF POINT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION (2001 CDFI PROGRAM - SECA)

Location: Wolf Point, Montana  
Award: \$145,300  
Contact: Ms. Nyoka Twitchell - (406) 653-2880

Wolf Point Federal Credit Union is a nonprofit, member-owned financial organization located in Wolf Point, Montana. Established in 1963, the credit union's target market includes the area's low-income population and residents of the adjacent Fort Peck Indian Reservation. Wolf Point FCU was certified in April 2001. Technical assistance will be used to update its communications and data systems and to contract with a consultant to examine alternative site locations needed to improve member accessibility to services. About two-thirds of the members are Native American, primarily Sioux.

### THE HERITAGE INSTITUTE (2002 CDFI PROGRAM - NACTA)

Location: Wolf Point, Montana  
Award: \$40,000  
Contact: Daniel Williamson - (406) 653-2988

The Heritage Institute of Wolf Point, Montana, proposes to create a multi-faceted loan fund. The Heritage Institute is a non-profit organization focused on energy conservation and consulting on the Fort Peck Reservation. The Fund's technical assistance grant of \$40,000 will be used to hire consultants to help the organization to analyze the Awardee's market, develop a capitalization strategy and plan, and update the Awardee's underwriting and financial management policies and procedures; and to obtain training for the Awardee's staff and board members that will focus on lending operations, risk management, underwriting and risk assessment, CDFI governance, strategic planning, and community outreach to assist them in establishing a CDFI.